



# CALIFORNIA GARDEN

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MARCH, 1916

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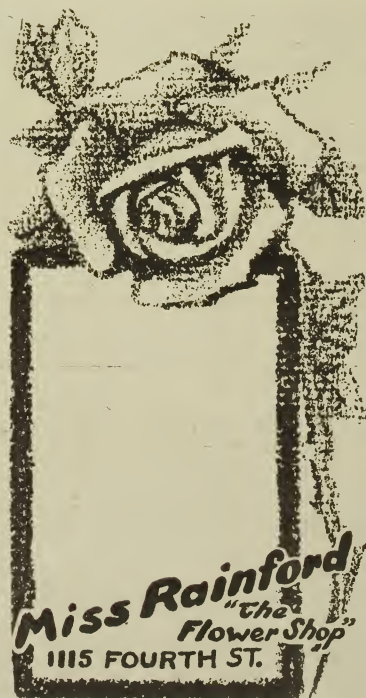
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# The California Garden

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*One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

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No. 9

Possibly we did not emphasize sufficiently last month the extreme good fortune that has befallen this magazine in obtaining as a regular honorary contributor P. D. Barnhart, late editor of Pacific Garden. At any rate the printer shoved our comments and self-gratulations away in the back, which was merely after the manner of printers, who, furnish proof of what they are going to

do and then don't do it if it be in any wise inconvenient. We want it put right up in front this time, that we who know more about California Garden than any one else, because we have suffered more with it and by it, regard the coming of Friend Barnhart as one of the gifts of the gods to a publication that always meant well whatever it did or said.

## Is This A Real Awakening

E WONDER what has stirred the community to talking City Beautiful, Good Roads and the like subjects so long considered unworthy of the serious consideration of real "business men"? Perhaps the tourists who cut unusually short their stay with us may have had a spoon in the dish, because many of these are reported as deploring the inability to motor through our scenic back country. Of course a perfectly good citizen has written to the papers that one factory is worth more to San Diego than 100,000 tourists, but he probably will allow the qualification that it would have to be a sizeable one. Our scenery belongs among the "made in" goods and the less it is improved, except in the matter of roads, the better it is. There seems little sense in lining up in battle array our attractions as a playground and our qualifications as a factory site, where the tourist loves to motor the manufacturer certainly won't build, though one of the proprietors of a world famous sanitarium in Colorado said, after a trip over our mountains to Imperial Valley, that he passed on the way a location for such an institution that had any other he had ever seen skinned a mile. Let the advocates of the factory continue their efforts as they see best, but so far the tourist has brought the bread and butter, and it were foolish to shoo him away till those factories are belching smoke.

These remarks are made simply because we seem to be drifting into another campaign of vituperation between the advocates of a city in which to play and one

given over to work. One might be excused for deeming this a religious question, everybody interested is so dead sure he is right, and that is admissible, but he is equally positive the other fellow is wrong, and that is very unkind if not worse.

As a Gardening paper we are frankly for the City Beautiful, but we have placed no obstacles in the way of prospective factories. Our conscience is clear both ways as we have no friends in the manufacturing line.

Don't let us make a spectacle of ourselves so that the stranger and, Oh! horrible thought, perhaps Los Angeles, may remark, "See how those San Diegans love one another."

Read this extract from the press of this month and see what a non-catering-to-tourist community is proposing to do simply to make beautiful and shade miles of a highway. This people seem to think that with a State owning an auto for every 18 inhabitants it is a paying proposition to make motoring as pleasant as possible, and of course it is possible some of them prefer for themselves tree shaded boulevards; there are such.

Bakersfield, March 4—Realization of the plan to make the stretch of state highway between Bakersfield and Tejon, a distance of nineteen miles, one of the most attractive shaded boulevards in California is now near at hand, the board of supervisors having ordered the work of planting the trees to begin at once.

The recently completed Tejon cutoff brings Southern California forty miles nearer to Bakersfield and thousands of motorists from the southern part of the state will enjoy the scenic drive this summer. The state highway commission is co-operating in the work of beau-

tifying the Tejon route and water has been piped along the road for more than twenty miles, promising to take care of the trees after the county has planted them.

R. E. Houghton, owner of the Alameda ranch has donated thousands of ash trees and the Kern County Land Company all the palms that will be required.

Be not deceived, the election of city trustees is not the only thing agitating Coronado just now, for a City Beautiful campaign is in the burning. Probably by the next issue details will be available; now we merely know that interested parties are telephoning others who can be interested and plans are being formulated for a monster massmeeting with all the trimmings, even to a brass band. Four brazen instru-

ments at one time is all the San Diego Floral Association could ever afford, so there must be something big behind a whole band.

## Rose Show Time



HE attention of every reader is directed to the season as being the time when the Floral Association is accustomed to immolate itself upon the altar of public service by giving a spring show. The questions of where, when, and what, stare us in the face, and each one should have interest enough to offer suggestions preliminary to tendering more material help.

# Lessons Learned In the School of Experience

*By P. D. Barnhart, Pasadena*



WHEN transplanting Avocado trees protect them from direct sunlight for a year. This is easily done by driving four stakes around each tree, and tacking a single thickness of burlap on them; the top as well as the sides. The larger the tree, the wider apart the stakes should be. The pores on the foliage of this subject are so large that they evaporate water more rapidly from the tree than the new rootlets are able to supply the first season after transplanting, in consequence of which it lives a miserable existence, if it lives at all. Now that budded stock may be had at a price that everybody who owns a home can afford, a tree should be in every garden. They are fine as an ornamental tree, and the fruits are delicious, as well as wholesome and nutritious.

*Catha edulis* is a new introduction to our gardens which is highly ornamental and, in its native land, Arabia, a beverage is made from the foliage, the same as that of the Chinese tea—*Camelia Thea*—It is of its ornamental character that I write at this time. As an economic plant it may not be of value in this country. The foliage is a beautiful dark bronze color, much more pronounced than that of purple leaved beach, or of the

purple leaved plum, *Prunus Pissardi*. Moreover it does not fade as the leaves grow old and, being an evergreen, it is admirably suited for working out color schemes in landscape effects. It belongs to the tribe of which "bitter-sweet," *Celastrus scandens*, of the Atlantic states is a member. I am curious to know whether *Catha* will also bear beautiful scarlet fruits, as the *Celastrus* does.

The plants I have under observation are yet too young to show this character.

The failure of imported *Ranunculus* and *Anemone* bulbs this year to grow, is good and sufficient reason for buying home products of these desirable spring flowering plants. Not one of 500 *Ranunculus* and but five per cent of *Anemones* that I planted grew. It is folly to accuse the seedsmen who sell them with dishonesty. The fault is with the foreign growers who lift the bulbs before they are thoroughly matured.

There is no necessity for California gardeners buying imported stock. Howard & Smith grow them in great quantities, and every bulb they sell is certain to flower. There is no trouble growing them from seed, but it don't pay the average gardener to bother doing so. Again I say buy home grown *Ranunculus* and *Anemones*.

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## Keep watch for Monthly Meeting Dates & Places



## Silly Place Names

"Some Blackfeet Indians, with a taste and a respect for Nature that shames the pale-face, have protested to the Secretary of the Interior against the barbarous custom of tacking silly, meaningless, vulgar names to noble natural objects which the Indians long ago had named with appropriateness. A melodious word, with poetic significance and very likely commemorating some charming native legend, is calmly ignored in favor of Jones' Gulch, or Smith's Falls, or Dolly Lake.

It is even worse in the matter of towns. Nearly all the good names in North America are those bestowed by the Indians of the early French and Spanish explorers. After them came the Anglo-Saxon spattering the landscape with his own patronymics and other tasteless and meaningless proper nouns.

We can understand why a person with the imagination of a hitching post might prefer for a beautiful natural object his own name or that of a female relative, or some foolish Grand Falls, High Peak, Swift Rapids, Broad Canon; but we cannot understand why authority should permit him to vandalize that way. Unless there is some excellent reason to the contrary, authority ought to insist always upon the Indian names."

The above clipping from the Saturday Evening Post should strike a kindred note in the heart of San Diegans whose territory still bears many names reminiscent of Indian and Spanish days. The traveller on our roads must wonder what delightful name we lost when Roseville, Imperial Beach, National

City, Alpine, Julian, Lakeside and Oceanside obtruded among Point Loma, Chula Vista, Jamul, Jamacha, Dulzura, Cuyamaca, Escondido, Encinitas, La Jolla and other delightful sounds. There surely was a sad lack of imagination when our streets were numbered one way and lettered another and the improvement was not so marked when we converted Fifth into Broadway. At least some one might have thought of using Spanish numerals. But our sins in this line are mere errors in judgment, for up in the Yosemite a great crime was committed when Pohone was dropped for Bridal Veil and Tissaack for Half Dome, these spellings may not be correct but the inference is the same.

It is bad enough that parents can saddle their children with names that they abominate when they come to years of appreciation, but these die off in the course of time while a place continues on and on. Supposing some of those old Indians, with titles like Hiawatha for instance, were back here and had to have letters addressed to Mr. Hiawatha of Roseville, and it would be equally incongruous to communicate with Don Jose Sepulveda there.

There is an archaeological society here, perhaps it might interest itself in this nomenclature question if only it can be made to seem old enough. We made a stab at this thing in the Exposition but the Isthmus crept in, and right where the Indians were quartered became the Painted Dessert. What would the Indians call this when at home.

## Short Talks

**Mexican Fire Tree** is one of the common names for *Poinciana regia*. A native of Madagascar, it has spread to all the warm regions of the earth because of its gorgeous beauty when in bloom.

Times without number, plant enthusiasts have tried this subject in Southern California, and only one succeeded in growing a tree. It is now about 25 years old and never has had a flower. In form it is broader than tall, light green in color, with pinnate foliage.

Our Summers are too dry, and the Spring months too cool for it, therefore readers of this Journal resident of this State may as well restrain themselves should they see a plant in full bloom in a warm country and be seized with a consuming desire to have one in their front yard.

**Erysimum Asperum**, the wild "Wall flower" of California is one of the gems which adorns the hills of the Sierras, and every time that I go to the San Joaquin valley, when they are in bloom, I am tempted to pull the bell chord and stop the train to gather a bunch, but restrain myself from the recollection of an experience years ago, when I pulled the rope and stopped the train to let a fellow traveler off who was being carried past a station to which he had paid his fare. A railroad policeman was on board and in a jiffy he and the train men were in the coach to see who it was that had the temerity to do a thing like that. Explanations and apologies in profusion, and the terrified culprits were let off with no greater penalty than a warning never to repeat the act. Of course I have remembered the admonition, and if I am to have wild Wall flowers, I shall have to walk to the mountains, or buy seed of Payne, and grow them.

# Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD



AM rather diffident about expressing myself this month, for I have found so many people to disagree with me in my attitude of being grateful for the small rains in late February and early March. Most of them dismissed the subject with the statement. "I thought we had had rain enough even to satisfy you." So that there may be no further misunderstanding on this subject I wish to declare my position as one of hoping for considerable more rain yet, several inches for choice. Notice I say "hoping" for the weather prophet on whom I have put up my money has said that the most moisture of the season is ahead of us. I refer to the American Indian. Perhaps I had better add that I don't revel in the idea of another flood.

I want you to take a turn with me through the garden while I do the talking. First I want you to observe two clumps of *Streptosolen Jamesoni* and the yellow flowering currant, *Ribes tenuiflorum*, and make a note of how their effectiveness is enhanced by being isolated. The beautiful half weeping effect would be utterly lost in a mass planting. There is no doubt that we are given to planting much too close, and fail to reflect that beauty of form is wasted in dense shrubbery. In the bed that harbors these two shrubs is a California sycamore that will in a couple of years extend its branches over them and it is welcome to do it for it is bare of foliage while they are in bloom. A strange prejudice has grown up in our land against deciduous growths, which has resulted in the banishment of many well worth things from our gardens. Most evergreens have a similar shade of color and when planted exclusively in masses give a heavy effect at a little distance that is most pleasingly relieved by deciduous growths. My meaning will be clearer perhaps if I instance our mixed forests in the mountains, more particularly when the oaks begin to leaf in spring and when they assume autumn tints in the fall. About that sycamore further, it is a rapid grower under garden culture. Even here both our houses and gardens need the sun in winter. I believe a very wonderful lath house could be grown with the native sycamore, by topping it and trimming it with that idea, practically the same thing as the Remadas of Spain made of plane trees.

Natural it is to drop from the tree to the violets beneath. We are not treating violets properly, that is, in the dividing and planting. This action has been put off till August when it ought to be done directly they are through blooming so that they can be well established

by fall. This applies to the new plants and it would be hard to think up an argument to show that it benefited the old ones to carry all their runners through the summer. For best blooms violets should be grown in rows and kept so, and they don't want to be planted in the shade; the north side where they get some of both is right. Double whites and blues should be in every garden, enough to pick a buttonhole or a large bunch for the belt.

It must be borne in mind that this is the early bird exercising the privilege of criticism. I don't like chicken wire as a support for sweet peas. It makes an absolute barrier even for the hand between side and side and everybody knows how the best blooms are always just through that confounded wire, and when you go round to get them they are not there. This year I shall try sticking with the smaller bamboo that grows fifteen feet or so in height and about three-quarters of an inch through. Each pole will cut into two and the small side shoots will be just the thing for the tendrills to entwine. We all know that the peas grow on the wire only because we make them by tying them to the stake so to speak, and that reminds me of my only grief at abandoning the wire, I shall have to find another use for my old fish line.

Another grouch for which I have no remedy, my ficus refuses to stick to cement walls. On several occasions it has flattered my hopes but today it is flat on the ground once more and for the 'steenth time I have cut it to the bone. Want of success has not been due to lack of suggestions which have covered a thousand devices from a crucifix made of lath to the electrician's adhesive tape. Frankly I don't think the poor ficus is all to blame, I suspect that darned wall. On several occasions when a climbing shoot has fallen backwards I have examined its feelers and found that it still clasped what appeared to be a small section of wall in each one, and I fear it may be a piece of the paint that was warranted not to come off. If the poor ficus has to pick off that paint bit by bit before it can climb I am sorry for it and take back every unkind thing I have said. I don't want my wall covered, but desire a tracery of green fingers making fascinating patterns on a white ground. I have always wanted this, but whether I shall take the trouble to have it if I can by thinning, I don't know. I have heard others admire this effect but have never seen the trimming necessary to maintain it carried out.

At last I have an hibiscus hedge, not much of an one, but it is recognizable as such, I



thought I had it once before then along came that unmentionable three days in January, 1913, and wiped it out to the ground. A week ago I realized material enough had grown again and at once summoned the barber with his shears and bid him hew to line for the Lord alone knows what may happen in this delectable land. He snipped and snapped and the hedge evolved from the mass of green. It is a little immodest about the ankles but is most pleasing at the other end,

and if it is not too indignant to bloom it should be pretty fair. Oh yes, it is the Peachblow variety.

I have a rose hedge growing without the before cussed chicken wire support, though it was necessary to develop the kind of rose before starting and this will cover itself with glory or the other thing this year.

Thank you for your attention. Come again, I often want to talk.

## The Flower Garden

*Miss Mary Matthews*



THIS MONTH gives numerous opportunities for the garden, but do not delay, the busy time is here, and what you neglect to do now, you may never accomplish.

Planting and transplanting can be done. Trees and shrubs can be put in. Plants for the hardy border will need attention this month, but be sure your ground is in good condition, loose and friable before putting in tender seedlings. To set these plants in cold, soggy soil very often gives disastrous results.

Keep your perennials well cultivated. Fill in the bare spots with quick growing things.

Plant cosmos this month. Along a stretch of wire fence is a fine place. Thin plants out so as to have room enough for each to spread and as they grow tie to the fence to prevent lopping over.

Zinnia seed should be planted this month in flats and transplanted when out of the seed leaf. This makes the plants much sturdier, and always buy separate colors. Never mix packets. Some one has said that Zinnias swear dreadfully at each other!

Watch your small Aster plants that they are not destroyed over night by beetles and slugs. A sprinkle of ashes or soot on the soil around them is a good preventive, also sulphur and air slacked lime dusted over the foliage.

Prune such of your early flowering shrubs as may have finished blooming. Watch for scale on your oleanders, choysias and other hardwood shrubs. Spray them with bordeaux.

Chrysanthemum clumps can be lifted and divided. The singles and little pompons are coming into greater favor each season. They are easier grown and furnish a greater amount of bloom from each plant than the large florist type and are very decorative as a cut flower.

If you care for the coleus, personally I do

not, plant seeds of them in boxes in a sandy soil, set in a warm spot and they will soon sprout. When the little plants have two or three leaves, lift them and plant them in a partly shaded border, protected from the west winds. They need a loose, rich soil with a good deal of sand. They seldom show their true coloring till the plants have reached quite a good size.

There is a lot of bulbous things that can be put out this month. Amaryllis, crinums, montbretias, ismene, tigridias, pancratiums, or spider lily, galtonia, or summer hyacinth, do well here and are effective in large clumps. Tuberous begonias that were sprouted in sand or moss can be put into pots for blooming if you so desire them. Put out a few gladiolus each month and the chances are you will always have some in bloom. Agapanthus can be divided. Large clumps should have all decaying leaves around the base taken off. Give them a good top dressing of manure or work bone meal in around each clump and give abundant moisture until blooming time.

Should you need the space where early bulbs have bloomed, lift them carefully with some soil around them, and heel them in in some out of the way spot to mature. Mark each variety carefully, so when time comes for replanting, they will not be mixed.

There are some good books on bulb growing to be had from the Public Library. "The Bulb Book," by Weathers, is, I think, quite up-to-date. There is also a much older publication, "Bulbs and How to Grow Them," by Fiske, which is exceedingly instructive. Also those on individual subjects, especially the one "Narcissus and Daffodils," by Kirby.

### Come to the Meetings

Watch out for the meeting dates and places, published on the first column of the 14th page of this magazine. Bring as many friends with you as you wish.

# Monthly Excursion Through Exposition Grounds

By G. R. GORTON

**U**OVERS of aquatics have something to look forward to this year when the "open season" for Lotus and Lilies arrives. La Laguna de la Espejo is undergoing radical changes, and, in addition to the rainbow of color which the upper pool will present again this year, the lower and larger one will contain some of the rarest and best in water plants, in the form of an exhibit by E. D. Sturtevant of Hollywood, recognized as one of the foremost growers of aquatics in America. The wonderful Victoria will be represented by some eight or ten specimens, all of the hardy species Cruziana. This species apparently has all of the desirable qualities of the well known Regia, (adding that of greater hardiness.) Several species of Lotus will be used, and the elite of Water Lilies will be present, including some imported novelties which cost so much money that it is not best to quote figures, lest we be accused of lapsing into "Exposition exaggeration", but suffice it to say that the cost of one of these rarer sorts would stock a good-sized pond with pretty good varieties. Besides these rare lilies, many of the best standard varieties will be seen, as for instance, the beautiful Zanzibar or Royal Purple Lily (*Nymphaea Zanzibarensis*) considered by connoisseurs to be the finest of all blue water lilies. Several of the various varieties of the species *gracilis*, which is distinguished in part by the fact that the flowers are borne on tall stems, fifteen inches or so out of the water, Geo. Huster, a gorgeous crimson, and other tropical lilies will be planted in compliment to this favored portion of the globe where such tender plants may safely be planted out of doors.

The Botanical Building is ablaze with color—more than it has been for some months. Much new material has been added, including some very showy Rhododendrons in very good colors, more Cinerarias, Primulas, Schizanthus in many colors, and in the glass house several different species of Anthuriums are in flower.

The path which loops the loop around the wild flower field north of the California Building might prove interesting enough to reward the visitor for going a little out of his way and following it around its circuit. Commencing from the northwest corner of the stock beds which occupy the site of the late lamented canna exhibit, the first object of interest which greets one is a *Leptospermum laevigatum* bending under its burden

of white bloom. Continuing along past a stone wall which is opposite an outlook towards Cabrillo Canyon, groups of *Solanums* of two species will be seen; one, *Solanum Warcewiczii* (it will avail nothing to try to pronounce it—it can't be done—the gardeners who have had to call it something have corrupted the specific name into "Worsethan-whisky"—which is a slander, although it has its faults.) It bears large, deeply lobed leaves, quite tropical in appearance, and slightly suggesting those of some of the *Aralias*. The stalk, however, is very thorny, the flowers white, and rendering the plant easy of identification as a *Solanum*. The growth is very rapid, and according to the introducers the plant attains a height of about six feet, but here it has exceeded the specifications, and rises up to a height of eighteen feet or more in favorable spots. Its relative, the "New Zealand Holly", which will be found nearby, is also a *Solanum*, but of a species which seems to be unknown to this part of the country. However, the plant is quite decorative when it bears, as now, clusters of bright red berries. The leaves are simple, entire, dull green in color, with the new growth very downy. The whole plant is much dwarfer than its relative of the Russian name, averaging around six or eight feet in height.

Returning via the same path, but skirting the east side of the field, the most conspicuous feature of the immediate vicinity is a clump of *Echium fastuosum*, bearing giant spikes of rich blue flowers. This plant seems to be a popular resort of bees, which may be seen at any time earning their daily bread (bee bread, you know) therefrom. Further along, as the path turns into the one which leads towards the Botanical Building, is a large group of *Polygala dalmaisiana*, a bright cheerful sort of a plant which is constantly maintaining a show of magenta blossoms, but is inclined to be a bit quarrelsome with most other colors, except perhaps pale yellows or of course white.

Due west of the Government Building (known during the past year as the Sacramento Valley Building) at the fork of the paths, is another *Echium*, a white flowering species—*Echium simplex* by name. Opposite the northwest corner of the same building is more *Echium fastuosum*. Across the walk, and down into the canyon, a large planting of *Genista canariensis*, one of the Brooms, has contributed more yellow bloom to the general yellowness of things. Some-

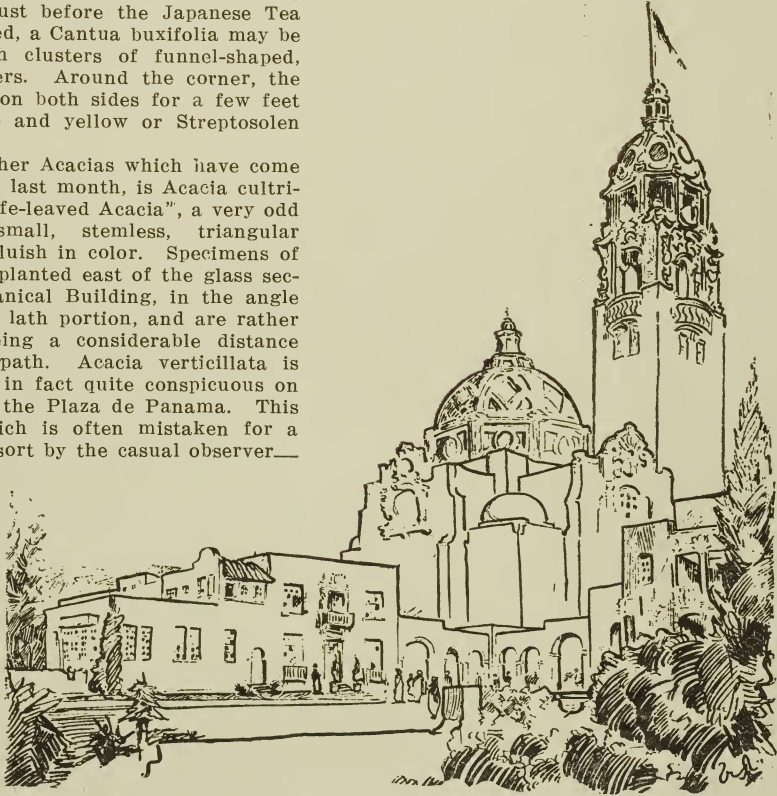


times it seems as if all the plants in Southern California bore yellow flowers.

Near the north door, about opposite the center of the building, *Acacia armata* is in flower. This is one of the most curious of *Acacias* "armed" as its name indicates, with thousands of needle-like thorns, north of the Botanical Building the dainty *Diosma Erioides*—Breath of Heaven—with tiny white flowers and aromatic, Heath-like leaves graces the front lines of the planting bordering the path, and just before the Japanese Tea Garden is reached, a *Cantua buxifolia* may be seen, hung with clusters of funnel-shaped, orange-red flowers. Around the corner, the path is flanked on both sides for a few feet with the orange and yellow or *Streptosolen jamesonii*.

Among the other *Acacias* which have come into flower since last month, is *Acacia cultriformis*, the "Knife-leaved *Acacia*", a very odd species with small, stemless, triangular shaped leaves, bluish in color. Specimens of this species are planted east of the glass section of the Botanical Building, in the angle formed with the lath portion, and are rather hard to see, being a considerable distance back from the path. *Acacia verticillata* is more accessible, in fact quite conspicuous on several sides of the Plaza de Panama. This is a species which is often mistaken for a conifer of some sort by the casual observer—

at other times of the year—by reason of its needle-like leaves. At this season the typical *Acacia* flowers remove every possible doubt as to its identity. The group of these along the balustrade south of the plaza bids fair to redeem a promise made for it some time ago that it would furnish a very attractive blue and gold combination in conjunction with the *Heliotrope* planted alongside.




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*The Rose Show time is coming and the members of our association are asked to take the old-time interest* (Watch for date & other particulars.)  
**AT THE MARYLAND HOTEL**

# Uncle Sam on Fertilizers



THE following is taken from the Weekly News letter issued by the Department of Agriculture of the U. S. Government and is printed in the California Garden because of the popular misconception of what constitutes fertilizer and the crying demand for it in this section.

All soil that has not been cropped long by man is not necessarily rich land and no term has been more abused than "virgin" as applied to the soil here.

The way of the specialist conceding that term as applied to farming to mean the man who grows one crop exclusively is the extravagant way. We have the lemon grower who buys his fertilizer and the chicken man who throws his away, while the orchard is an ideal run for poultry and the two things dovetail perfectly. Older communities have proven the necessity of a rounded farming operation and farms mean everything from a chicken to a cow and a head of lettuce to a field of corn; and these are pretty nearly independent economic kingdoms.

Read how seriously Uncle Sam deals with fertilizer.

The high prices of potash and acid phosphate at this time are causing much concern among farmers who depend upon commercial fertilizers to supply these constituents for the successful production of their crops.

If the farmers of this country had always fully appreciated the true value of farm manure, and used it on their land, the present situation would be much less acute. The annual loss of fertilizing materials is enormous in this country through careless handling of manure. This loss can be easily prevented in a large measure by proper methods of handling. While many farmers are getting the most from the manure produced on their farms, yet many could well exemplify the European farmer in this matter, who saves carefully and utilizes every pound of manure available.

The farmer who feeds as much live stock as possible may figure that he is receiving a double remuneration from his crops: First, from the marketing of feeds through live stock; and, second, from the fertilizing substances which are left in the manure. Practically all of the nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash which is in the feeds is recovered in the manure from live stock. All landowners, farmers, and tillers of the soil should always be keenly conscious of this fact, and employ methods of management accordingly.

It is a well-known fact that the animal uses of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and other elements of the feedstuffs to build up

the body, carry on the work of the body, and to produce milk, work, wool, etc. At the same time we must remember that all of these processes involve the building up and breaking down of body cells, and the component parts of these broken-down cells are thrown off as waste matter.

In this waste matter we have the same elements as were in the feedstuffs consumed. Except in cases of growing animals, whose bodies are increasing in size, practically the same amount of nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium are voided in the manure as were contained in the feeds eaten. The exact percentages of these substances voided by live stock varies within wide limits, depending largely upon the age and kind of animal, amount of feed eaten, work which the animal is doing, and various other factors. A young and growing animal retains a large part of these elements in the growing tissues of the body. A dairy cow uses a portion of them in the production of milk. A hard-working horse or a mature fattening animal voids from 90 to 100 per cent of them. It is then evident that a large percentage of the elements of plant food removed from the soil by growing crops remains on the farm where these crops are fed, and that the manurial value of feeds is in direct proportion to their composition.

The liquid portions of the manure contain about three-fourths of the nitrogen and nearly all of the potash voided by the animal. Therefore, it is highly important that as much of the liquid manure be saved as possible. This is usually accomplished by using a sufficient amount of bedding to absorb it, or by allowing it to drain into a pit or cistern of some sort. Spreading manure while fresh is generally most economical. Where this is impracticable, it should be stored under cover or in a concrete pit, and always kept well packed. "Fire-fanging" can be prevented by keeping it quite moist. Those desiring further information relative to the care and use of manures should correspond with the department or their State experiment station.

Aside from the fertilizing elements contained in manure, it has beneficial mechanical effects upon practically all soils. When properly applied, manure improves the physical condition of the soil by increasing its water-holding capacity, aeration, and temperature. While the soluble portion of the manure is at once available for plant use, other plant foods are released as decomposition continues for two or more years. This latter process assists materially in rendering

available for plant use the potash and phosphoric acid which are already present in the soil, but in unavailable forms.

When the farmers of our country thoroughly appreciate the actual amounts of fertilizing constituents which are contained in farm manures, and intelligently care for and

utilize the manure produced on their farms, they can save millions of dollars in fertilizer purchases; and the necessity of depending upon the purchase of these fertilizers, followed by the occurrences of crises in the fertilizer situation such as now exists in some sections, will be largely decreased.

## Vegetable Gardens

*By Walter Birch*



IS so often the case, we have suddenly jumped from early spring into summer weather, as far as the temperature is concerned, and all plant life, particularly the weeds, are growing apace. Therefore, the first thing to be done is to get busy with spade and hoe and get your ground in trim, and thoroughly cultivate around all plants and shrubs, taking care, of course, not to disturb or uncover roots and rootlets. All planting of deciduous fruits should be quickly finished now, as the sap is beginning to flow again. It will help in handling these trees for planting if you will puddle the roots to protect them from the sun and dry air. This is done by dipping the roots in a solution of mud about the consistency of molasses. This treatment will also apply to bare root rose bushes, which now want to be handled with great care as most of them are passed the dormant stage.

The next two or three months is just the time for planting out your citrus fruit trees. Don't forget to set out a Marsh's Seedless Pomelo, which does so well here and is such a wonderful crop producer, and makes such a delicious and wholesome fruit for the breakfast table. You also want to plant an Avocado, or Alligator Pear tree, but be sure and get a grafted or budded tree so that you will not be disappointed in the fruit you get. There are a number of good varieties of this fruit, amongst which the Taft, Gauter, Harman and Chappelow are some of the good ones. The Avocado makes a very handsome large evergreen tree, and will do well in any

protected location where the soil is good, requiring practically the same treatment as an orange tree.


Get your ornamental plants and trees set out now and see how quickly they will begin to take hold and grow.

In the vegetable garden you can now plant and sow pretty nearly the full list. Beans and sweet corn are two of the important items to get in, and in plants you can set out cabbage, cauliflower, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, etc., also rhubarb and asparagus roots. Golden Bantam and Black Mexican sweet corn are two good early varieties, with Oregon Evergreen for the main crop, and Chinese Giant is the best large mild sweet pepper to plant. The peppers and egg-plant want a warm protected location when set out as early as this. You can also start your melon patch, the Rocky Ford, Pineapple, and Early Hackensack, are all good muskmelons, and the Chilian or Cannonball watermelon is the best watermelon around here.

The later varieties of bulbs are now coming into season, including Tube roses, Tuberous rooted begonias, dahlias, etc. They can all be planted during the next month or two and will be a great addition to the garden or lath house, particularly the begonias.

You can also get your bedding plants out now, such as pansies, snapdragons, penstemons, stocks, verbenas, etc., so that during the summer months the garden may be what it should be "a thing of beauty and a joy forever."

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Are you training your roses for the Rose Show in April? You should exhibit, if only one good bloom. 



# The Lath House

By ALFRED D. ROBINSON



THESE warm days in early March have made the lathhouse folks believe that sure enough spring is here and they are growing accordingly. It is almost with fear that this activity is observed for it is not time for settled weather. So far the cinerarias have not signified their disapproval but they should be freely sprinkled and the ground kept quite moist so that they don't get too warm as they are cold blooded folks and most of their troubles, like plant lice, are aggravated by dry, warm conditions. Give them liberal treatment, liquid fertilizer twice a week will be acceptable. There is quite a variety in this plant and it can be had tall growing or dwarf, and with flat full petals or in a star form of bloom. Seed should be planted in June and must be treated as a cool weather product. The plants can be set out in October, either in lathhouse or under tree shade outside. Probably the cineraria is better suited for the lath house in our climate, as with our light rainfall and mild sunny winter weather it can hardly be kept in the atmosphere it likes outside, and only in exceptionally wet winters will it thrive.

The smaller *Pteris* ferns that usually look so discouraged in pots seem very content planted out in the lathhouse. It is quite evident that they don't like shifting around as they make little growth for some time. *Pteris Wilsoni* and *Winsetti* and the larger growing *Adiantoides* and *Parkeri* are well worth trying, and of course the *Tremula* must be planted where there is room, for it soon makes a three-foot growth.

It is rarely one sees a good specimen fern grown for any length of time in a pot in this vicinity and no doubt the reason lies in this kind of a receptacle tending to promote warmth and drouth the very opposite, of what a fern likes. The writer's experience has been that redwood boxes made of inch stuff are far preferable. He has a very large *Bostoniensis* that has been in the same box for many years and apparently the whole interior is taken up with roots, yet it is thriving amazingly, its color is a rich dark green, whereas all the potted specimens have a rather anemic complexion. As a further en-

dorsement of boxes it may be said that a transfer to them from pots has always benefited the bigger ferns. Maidenhair will do well in pots perhaps better than any other fern, but that is not saying it might not do wonders in boxes.

Possibly those who love to keep an orderly and artistic lathhouse will object to plain boxes, in which case it is easy to disguise their symmetry with bark nailed on roughly.

The hanging basket of wire is also a snare to the unwary. The process of dipping is awkward and requires some strength and yet it is the only way to insure the moist condition that ferns must have. Water poured on the top in little dribblets is an aggravation, if not an insult to the plant. However the shortcomings of the wire basket are as nothing to those of the wallpocket which seems designed to expose the largest amount of surface to dry out with the minimum space for dirt.

In the cases where both hanging basket and wall pocket are used, a considerable term of service without renewal or interference is necessary to good results, and with these imposters one year will put a strong growing plant in a straightjacket in a desert.

The open work receptacle is a mistake in our climate.

Oh, have you ordered those tuberous begonias. It is not intended to go into the whole question of starting the tubers again this month, but you will not be allowed to forget that you should grow some.

Some of the *Rubra* type of begonias have never ceased blooming all winter and now *Edmonsi* and *Verschafelti* have pushed up their bloom stalks and *Odorata Alba* is showing much bud. No attempt is to be made to cover this vital question of Begonias here as Mrs. Waite is to be entreated to contribute special articles from her intimate acquaintance with the big family.

Every day visitors from other lands visit this particular lathhouse and they all say "This is something new to me" which would point out one way in which we can impress the visitor without giving ourselves too much pain. Work up the lathhouse feature; it is ours in a peculiar way.

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Are you taking an interest in the City Clean-up Campaign? How is your own back yard?

# Care of the Rose

By A. D. ROBINSON

**F**OLKS keep remarking "How fast the roses are growing" and for a fact they are pushing out shoots and leaves in lively manner. It has been rose weather, that is, evenly cool, and in consequence there is little show of mildew. Nevertheless "preparedness" being the popular slogan it will be a good idea to see that some sulphur is on hand to be applied at the first suggestion of attack. Be suspicious of any leaf that curls and powder on the sulphur when the foliage is wet. Select fine weather, if you can find it, as rain will nullify your efforts and it is the fume of the sulphur released by the heat of the sun that does the business. A friend who is something of a chemist denies this fume theory so it seems only fair to register his protest as he is a good member of the Floral Association, however it is well established that sulphuring is most effective when the sun is on the job.

Are you ambitious to be a rosarian, or well content just to have a few roses? If the former you will now move among your bushes daily noting progress and rubbing off buds where they crowd. A little attention will show that in many cases two buds are going to grow across one another's pathway, one should be rubbed off. In other cases a small shoot is trying to raise a whole bouquet. It should have its ambition modified and its efforts restricted to one or two blooms. For really good results both as to quality of bloom and symmetry of bush this rubbing off of buds is as important as proper pruning.

Keep the ground stirred deeply, do it after every shower and once a week whether it rain or not; so shall you get good roses and help to bear the heavy burden now humping our Water Department.

This is the last call for planting of dormant stock and the ground is in superb condition. Do the planting with more than ordinary care as you really are shockingly late, paying particular attention to the firming of the ground round the roots. That rose will want to grow right away or it won't grow at all.

Where budded stock is used suckers will appear and must be kept off. If they cannot be jerked away at their junction with the root or stock they should be cut off as deep

down as possible. Stock that won't sucker, and methods of treatment of stock to prevent its suckering, are constantly being exploited but in spite of it all a good healthy stock will keep up the effort to get away from its vicarious job.

Some doubts were suggested in a former number as to the use of Cecile Bruner climber as a stock from the point of view of transplanting, it is therefore recorded that of many moved this winter all are doing well.

It is felt that a sort of apology is owed a favorite rose in this locality that always does well, that is Papa Gontier, though semi-double it is capable of very wonderful things in buds, brilliant in color and long and perfect in shape. It is an early variety too. The climbing kind is a most cheerful doer. By the way the apology is offered because of omission from lists of desirables.

Ten new varieties of roses are now starting in boxes, further they are all in yellow and orange shades and when they are sprung upon floral members later on, no one will be allowed to say "I wish I had thought of that". The Garden thought of it for you but it can't DO it.

The malodorous but eternal question of fertilizer cannot be omitted. It is getting late to apply the stable variety and a quick meal is what the growing bushes will want. Stop and consider that in two months to ten weeks the rosebushes starting from bare branches make shoots from a foot to four feet long bearing their wonderful blooms and you will realize that it means getting ammunition from somewhere or shooting short of the mark of the best possible. Liquid fertilizer is the quick meal and if used very weak as it should be, might be applied with advantage every week. Why not try it on one bush and see what you can do. Now about applying this liquid, your bush is in the open ground and it will take more than a tumblerful to give it a drink. You must wet all the ground occupied by the root system both down and across and it will take ten gallons at least. This would seem like insisting on the obvious but there are men in this vicinity who used to carry a meal for their whole garden home in their trousers' pocket and not in a very concentrated form at that.

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*Remember the Out-Door Meeting, April 4th  
with Miss Sessions at Pacific Beach*

## The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor  
G. T. Keene, Manager

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

### The San Diego Floral Association

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#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Alfred D. Robinson, President  
Miss K. O. Sessions, Vice-President  
G. T. Keene, Secretary  
L. A. Blochman, Treasurer  
Miss A.M. Rainford, Miss Alice Lee, Mrs. Thos. Kneale

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### REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of The San Diego Floral Association on the third Tuesday of every month at 8:00 p. m.

April 18—(a) "Dahlias." (b) "Irrigation." With Mrs. Wm. Simison, Glenartney Station, Point Loma.

May 16—(a) "Lath-house." (b) Begonias." With Mrs. Herbert D. Field, 3026 Date Street.

June—Date to be announced. Annual meeting and Election of Officers.

July 18—(a) "Ferns." (b) "Fall Blooming Plants." With Mrs. W. L. Frevert, 3535 First Street.

August 15—(a) "Violets." (b) "Planting Seeds for Winter Blooms." With Mrs. I. D. Webster, 1028 Thirty-second St.

### OUT-DOOR MEETINGS

First Tuesday of the month in the afternoon:

April 4—Miss Sessions, Pacific Beach.

May 7—Mrs. O. E. M. Howard, National City.

June 6—Mrs. Alfred D. Robinson, Rosecroft, Point Loma.

July 11—Mrs. Erskine J. Campbell, Point Loma.

August 1—Mrs. Charles W. Darling, Marcellita, Chula Vista.

## February Meeting



An interesting meeting of the Floral Association was held on Feb. 15th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Blochman, First and Thorn Sts.

Aside from the regular floral subjects, there was considerable discussion of matters pertaining to flower shows, floods, etc.

After considering the needs of the ranchers who must replant their gardens, a committee was appointed to investigate a proposition to aid in supplying the necessary seeds. Those named on the committee were Mr. Blochman, Mr. Sumner and Mrs. Kneale.

Another committee was appointed to see what could be done about a bulb show. Those on the committee were Miss Clough, Mrs. Kneale, Miss Niven, Miss Rainford and Mrs. Christian.

Mr. Blochman gave a talk on "Growing Flowers from Seed," but as he had furnished an article for the Garden on that subject, the magazine being then on the press, at the time of the last meeting, no synopsis is necessary this month.

The subject of lawns was also discussed by Pres. Robinson and others, and one might judge by the bulk of the testimony that lawns are not an unalloyed blessing in California, though many pretty ones are to be seen where the owners are willing to give them the care and attention which they require.

## March Meeting

The Floral Association met with Mrs. W. S. Dorland on the 21st, with "Annuals" as the first subject for discussion. President Robinson called attention to the fact that many of the world's best annuals came originally from California.

The Royal Horticultural Society, of England, has had representatives here at various times studying our native flowers and sending seeds and plants to Europe, where they have been cultivated and developed, until finally they come back to us with a title attached that almost hides their parentage.

If seeds of annuals are planted too early they die of the cold and dampness, and if too late are burned up by the sun. The seed should be started in boxes and set out so that they will not stop growing. If checked in growth they develop stem rot. The Grant paper pots are excellent, as the pot is set in the ground and rots away before the roots are ready to spread out.

The ideal way would be to plant each seed separately to insure their having plenty of room. For a small garden fifty plants of one kind would be enough.



The gardening rules of the old countries are hundreds of years old, but our rules must be fitted to our own peculiar conditions.

Sunken beds are recommended which will allow of the flooding of the beds to a depth of three inches, making the watering easier and much more effective.

Propagating by Cuttings and Division was also discussed, and the information brought out that anything can be divided that makes a series of heads with roots attached. The right time to divide is when the plant is dormant.

Most soft woods and many of the hard wood plants may be propagated by cuttings, when placed in sand in the shade and kept moist.

The question of the annual Rose Show was considered. The President spoke very appreciatively of the attitude of Manager Lilly, of the Maryland Hotel, is offering the use of the Arcade in this fine new building for the show.

The details are to be worked out by the Board of Directors, but the very generous offer will very likely be accepted and the date of the show set to take place sometime between the middle and last of April, as the roses are coming on rapidly now. It will probably last two days.

## The Dahlia



HE question of when to plant dahlia tubers keeps coming in. It is good policy to hold tubers out of the ground till April and as late as possible in that month. Tubers planted now that do not get started right away, are apt to rot if a cold damp spell should come on; further, the dahlia is really a fall bloomer and the later it blooms the better the flowers. Where the tubers have started active growth they are better planted right away, for the shoots made before planting are valueless and exhaust the vitality. If cuttings are desired, tubers can be plunged in sand and kept in heat and the shoots taken off when they become three inches long and treated as soft cuttings.

Dahlia seed can be planted now and will be ready to go out in May. Remember the secret of growing good plants from seed is to give room, light and air. In planting, do pay some attention to color arrangement.

Regular dahlia articles will be resumed next month.

Get Ready for the Rose Show  
Watch for Exact Date

## Books on Insects

Beutenmuller, Wm. A manual of common American and European insects. 1906.

Fabre, J. H. C. The life and love of the insect. 1911.

Gibson, W. H. Sharp eyes; a Rambler's calendar of fifty-two weeks among insects, birds and flowers. 1892.

Kellogg, V. L. American insects. 1908.

Kelly, Mrs. M. A. B. Short stories of our shy neighbors. 1896.

Sanderson, E. D. Elementary entomology. 1912.

Comstock, J. H. Manual for the study of insects. 1907.

Howard, L. O. Insect book. 1905.

### INSECTS, INJURIOUS AND BENEFICIAL

Sanderson, E. D. Insect pests of farm, garden and orchard. 1912.

Burritt, M. C. Apple growing. 1912.

Fulton, J. A. Peach culture. 1889.

Green, S. B. Popular fruit growing. 1909.

Kellogg, V. L. Insect stories. 1908.

Mathews, F. S. Field book of American wild flowers. 1912.



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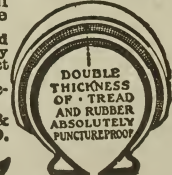
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## Hints on Farming

(Fred Grumm's Annual Clipping)

Here are timely hints for farmers:

Now that spring is coming on,  
Don't waste time in growing blue-grass—

Get some nice, green, Irish lawn.  
At the dry-goods store you'll buy it

At a very slight expense,

You can get enough to cover

One whole yard for thirty cents.

If your garden needs more water

You can gain the end you seek

Just by planting, in your plumbing,

Here and there a lusty leek.

If you're fond of birds it's easy

To produce them, fine and thick;

Just a pound of birdseed scattered

All about will do the trick.

Or if poultry is your hobby

Get some eggplants—Plymouth Rock,  
Wyandotte or Cochin China—

Or some other standard stock,

And just grow them like tomatoes,

And, with no expense for food,

You can pick a fowl or pullet

. Any time you're in the mood.

If you're fond of milk you ought to

Have it always right at hand;

Sow your garden full of milkweeds

Of the Jersey-Holstein brand.

And of butter you can always

Have the very best supplies

If you'll pasture on your milkweeds

Just a few good butterflies.

If you crave some hours of leisure

You should plant a lot of thyme;

And if tasks remain unfinished

When you hear the village chime

You can ketchup with tomatoes,

As has oft been truly said;

But you ought to plant a cabbage

If you wish to get a head.

You should plant, of course, some pie-plant—

Mince and custard—every kind;

'Tis a joy to see them waving,

Rich and luscious, in the wind!

Turnips you can raise so quickly—

Take them by their tops and pull;

And of celery you'll have plenty

If you'll plant your cellar full.

If you're gardening for profit,

And your fortune would increase,

You should sow your farm with onions,

For they bring a scent apiece.

And if you are scent-imental

You should plant, in nook and ell,

Something you can cauliflower

And a vegetable as well.

--Nixon Waterman.

## Rosecroft Society Notes



Every morning now Cassandra modestly retreats into the tall grass and lays an egg.

Olympus, the handsome son of Cassandra, who has just finished a course at college, has been united in wedlock with two of his aunts, (No, this is not against the canons of fowl religion) they are at home now in Pen No. 13½.

Noah has had a serious argument with his son Shem about the origin of the flood and now they are both sorry and sore in the region of the head.

Mr. Harold Taylor, the Art and Society Photographer, is at work on several portraits, the gem of the collection being one of Cassandra and her favorite granddaughter. These will be on view at The Studios on Sixth St., San Diego, for a short time before being hung in the family gallery.

Seven of Rosecroft's most celebrated beauties are being imported to make an indefinite visit to Washington and negotiations are under way. Should this eventuate it will leave a sad hole in our younger smart set gatherings for a while, but mighty is the pull of \$300.

In spite of all this, eggs and stock are still yours for the usual trifling consideration.

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# *Annual Rose Show*

*Hotel Maryland Arcade*



*April 27th & 28th*

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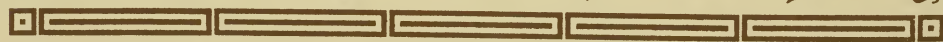
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